

**Psych 305L, Spring 2020: Cognitive Lab**  
**Tuesdays 10am-12pm, H603**

**Instructor:** Marcus Cappiello  
Office hour: Tuesdays 12:00-1:00pm, H-735I

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**Text and Materials:**

Course Website – <https://marcuscappiello.github.io/teaching/PSYC305L/Spring2020/S20>

Required – CogLab Online (<https://coglab.cengage.com/info/purchase.shtml>)

Recommended – APA Publication Manual 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

**Description:** Laboratory course to accompany PSYC 305 will focus on the application of theoretical and experimental principles and findings in cognitive psychology. Empirical research will be designed, conducted, analyzed, interpreted, and presented. Written research reports are required. This course is one that partially fulfills the University's Upper Division Writing Requirement and consequently includes several writing assignments.

**Course Objectives:**

- Understanding of the scientific process
- Awareness of ethical considerations in conducting research
- Knowledge of the research methods used in cognitive psychology
- Ability to evaluate published research
- Ability to organize and statistically evaluate empirical data
- Ability to write an APA style research report
- Ability to conduct cognitive research
- Knowledge of basic cognitive processes and mechanisms

**Prerequisites:**

PSYC 101 (Intro.), PSYC 201 (Elementary Statistics), PSYC 202 (Research Methods), PSYC 300 (Computer Applications in Psychology), and either completion of PSYC 305 Cognitive or concurrent enrollment in PSYC 305.

All of the above prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better in order to take this course except for PSYC 305 that can be enrolled concurrently. The skills you have developed from the prerequisites including those below are required to complete assignments and papers in this course.

- To calculate basic statistics and sort the data using Excel.
- To choose the correct inferential test appropriate for the experimental data, perform it on the data we collect, and describe the results in APA style.
- To be able to write a complete research paper in APA style.

**Class Etiquette:**

- Come to class on time. If you are late, please come in quietly without disrupting others.
- Be respectful of others – turn off or silence cellphones and distracting devices in class.
- Check Titanium regularly for materials and announcements.
- Do not cheat or plagiarize – it will result in disciplinary action.

- Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking the work (words, ideas, concepts, data, graphs, artistic creation) of another whether that work is paraphrased or copied in verbatim or near verbatim form and offering it as one's own without giving credit to that source. When sources are used in a paper, acknowledgment of the original author or source must be made through appropriate citation/attribution and, if directly quoted, quotation marks or indentations must be used. Improper acknowledgment of sources in essays, papers, or presentations is prohibited.

### **Writing requirement**

A substantial amount of your grade will be based on writing assignments. For each assignment, the students will receive feedback so they may improve their writing.

PSYC305L is one of those used by psychology majors to partially satisfy the course component of the University's Upper Division Writing Requirement (a total of three designated courses totaling 8 units is required), and the course must be completed with at least a grade of C.

### **Participation**

Participation will include in class quizzes, activities, and discussions. This is worth 10% of your grade so please attend every class. If you know you are going to miss a class, please let the Professor know ahead of time.

### **Lab Reports:**

There will be 4 lab assignments 10 points each for a grand total of 40 points. Student will complete experiments in class, collect data outside of class (2 points) analyses the data, and then write lab reports (8 points). Lab reports should be 4-6 pages, and include the following:

- A cover/Title page.
- An introduction; providing a brief description of the theory and/or phenomenon the experiment is testing.
- A methods section; this should be a description of the experiment and how it was conducted, who were the participants, how was the data collected etc.
- A results section; this will include a statistical analysis of the experiment, and a statement of its significance.
- A discussion section; this will be a brief statement of the implications of the experiment.
- A reference page; each lab will require you to find two relevant journal articles and cite them appropriately. Typically we will conduct the experiment one week; collect data during the week, then conduct a statistical analysis the following week.

### **Reflection Papers:**

Students will write 4 reflection papers 2.5 points each totaling 10 points. The papers will be based on assigned readings and in class activities.

### **Research Proposal**

You will write an 8 to 12 page research proposal extending some area of cognitive psychology we cover in class. This will be in APA format and will include title page, introduction, method, results, discussion, and reference sections. You will use a minimum of six journal articles for references. The final written research proposal is due the last day of class.

**Assignments:**

1000 Total

400 - 4 Labs, 100 points each

100 - 4 Reflection Papers, 25 points each

100 - Participation

300 - Term Paper (research proposal)

100 - Presentation

**Grading:**

Grade cut-offs, in percentages:

A+: 97 A: 93 A-: 90

B+: 87 B: 83 B-: 80

C+: 77 C: 73 C-: 70

D+: 67 D: 63 D-: 60

below 60: F.

Week	Topic	Assignments
1 (1/21)	Introductions What is cognitive psychology? Research basics	Syllabus
2 (1/28)	Early Perception Statistics 1	Sample Lab 1
3 (2/4)	Research papers Attention 1	Reflection paper 1 Collect data for Lab 1
4 (2/11)	Attention 2 Statistics 2	Statistics for Lab 1
5 (2/18)	Attention 3 Memory 1	Lab 1 Due on Titanium Collect data for Lab 2
6 (2/25)	Memory 2	Statistics for Lab 2 Reflection paper 2 Assigned
7 (3/3)	Memory 3	Lab 2/Reflection paper 2 Due Collect data for Lab 3
8 (3/10)	Sleep/Imagination 1	Statistics for Lab 3
9 (3/17)	Sleep/Imagination 2	Lab 3 Due
10 (3/24)	Spring Break	Enjoy yourself!
11 (3/31)	Concepts 1	Collect data for Lab 4 Reflection paper 3 assigned
12 (4/7)	Concepts 2	Statistics for Lab 4 Reflection paper 3 due Reflection paper 4 assigned
13 (4/14)	Consciousness 1	Lab 4/Reflection paper 4 Due
14 (4/21)	Consciousness 2	Research paper due
15 (4/28)	Presentations	Presentation slides due
16 (5/5)	Presentations	
17 (5/12)	No Final	